Tussock Moth B.E. Kolbert

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Region 3

NOV 7 1979

REPLY TO: 3430 Evaluation

SUBJECT: Douglas-fir Tussock Moth

TO: Forest Supervisor, Santa Fe NF

Since 1977, the Douglas-fir tussock moth, Orgyia pseudotsugata (McD.), caused repeated defoliation to Douglas-fir and white fir on the Nambe Indian Reservation and Espanola Ranger District (Santa Fe National Forest) in Nambe Canyon. This repeated defoliation has resulted in several localized pockets of tree mortality.

Enclosed for your information is a map showing localized areas where tree mortality occurred.

Terry Rogers (entomologist) and Emmett Wilson (biological technician) conducted a ground examination of the outbreak area for DFTM egg masses to determine the trend of the outbreak and the number of acres over which tree mortality occurred. The purpose of this letter is to document the results of this evaluation.

Visual examination of the remaining host type in the canyon for the presence of new DFTM egg masses was negative. In addition, old DFTM egg masses and cocoon densities were low. Based on the results of this examination, we don't expect any significant defoliation or mortality to occur in this canyon during 1980.

Douglas-fir and white fir mortality occurred along the floor and lower slopes of the canyon. Approximately 30 acres along the floor and lower slopes of the canyon experienced tree mortality. Of this total acreage, 10 acres were located on the Nambe Indian Reservation and 20 acres on the Espanola Ranger District, Santa Fe National Forest.

We recommend that no pest management action be taken in response to this outbreak.

Don Graham

DONALD P. GRAHAM
Director
Forest Insect and Disease Management

Enclosure

cc: BIA, Albq. (w/encl.)
TM, R-3 (w/o encl.)
WO (w/o encl.)
RM (w/o encl.)

TJRogers:pk 11/5/79

1979 AERIAL SURVEY

DOUGLAS FIR TUSSOCK MOTH DEFOLIATION

D - OUTBREAK BOUNDARY